

University of Texas at Tyler

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The Patriot Talon

Student Newspapers

2-12-2013

Patriot Talon (Feb. 12, 2013))

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PATRIOTTALON

University of Texas at Tyler

YOUR STUDENT-RUN MEDIA OUTLET SINCE 1976

February 12, 2013



Pulse 3

iPads transform
classroom learning

A&E 7

Alumnus works
to boost Tyler's
comedy scene

Sports 9

Tennis team defeats
national champions



RUNNING THE NUMBERS

In 1992, the average borrower graduated with **\$9,188**
in college debt. In 2011, that number reached **\$26,600**.

The debt SHADOW

Program helps students manage financial stress

Morgan Jones
Managing Editor

\$tudents can receive help with their finances thanks to a growing program at the University at a time when student-loan debt is higher than ever before.

Christina Gibson, a graduate student who assists the Office of Student Affairs, developed a money management program with Ona Tolliver to help students understand their financial obligations and manage their student-loan debt.

"I think it is a priority because I don't think that students will ever feel confident that they have a really good plan for paying for their education or managing their own personal finances, and I don't think

WHAT'S GOING ON?
The cost of college
tuition has increased
900 percent since 1978.

WHERE DO WE STAND?
Americans owe a
combined **\$956 billion**
in student loans.

WHO IS AFFECTED?
About **two-thirds**
of students graduate
with loan debt.



»IN MEMORIAM

University community mourns loss of student

Morgan Jones
Managing Editor

A message for an emergency meeting passed through the Alpha Chi Omega sorority's calling tree on Jan. 31. The young women didn't expect the heartbreaking news to come.

Alpha Chi Omega President Sydni Arnold informed her sisters that their sister Callie Graul died unexpectedly due to a brain tumor.

Graul's best friend, sorority sister and fellow dance team member Katrina Flores already had been informed by her family.

She knew of her dear friend's increasingly worsening headaches and partial loss of eyesight during the past month, but no one knew a rapidly growing brain tumor was the cause.

"A part of me feels bad because I kind of saw her suffer through it, but none of us had any idea," Flores said. "We all honestly thought that it was just headaches. I knew they were bad but I had no idea. It didn't hit me as an actual concern until she told me she couldn't see."



CALLIE GRAUL

VIGIL

A ceremony will be held at 6 p.m. tomorrow at the University Center Theater.

personal finances, and I don't think that will ever change," said Tolliver, assistant vice president for student affairs and dean of students. "You hope to reach a goal where everyone is fiscally responsible."

The program started in 2009 when Tolliver started with the University and brought the idea from the University of North Texas, where she worked in the office of fiscal education as the dean of students.

Tolliver and her office helped establish a money management program that employs a full-time staff

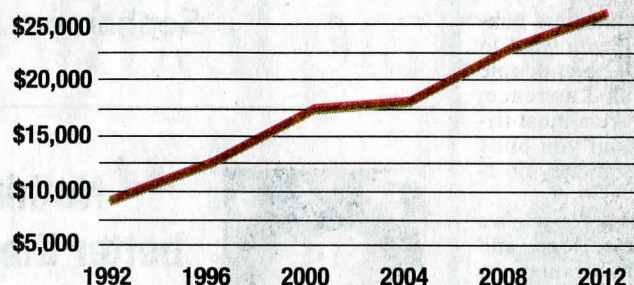
MONEY »4



LOOMING AHEAD
The average student loan balance takes about **10 years** to pay off.

TALON » GRAPHIC
BY ANDY TAYLOR

AVG. STUDENT DEBT SINCE 1992



Sources:
Project on Student Loan Debt
National Bureau of Labor Statistics
Economic Policy Institute

» WHY IT MATTERS:

While the national unemployment rate is down to 7.9 percent, the unemployment rate for people age 18 to 29 was **13.1 percent** in January. That could complicate matters at a time when the average college borrower is facing monthly debt payments of about **\$306.11 for 10 years.**

» 'INSPIRING EXCELLENCE'

Donors answer, exceed \$30M goal in 5-year fundraiser

Victor Texcucano
Managing Editor

University administrators are looking to the future as they celebrate the end of a successful campaign to raise \$30 million in five years.

Donors exceeded the goal, contributing \$30.6 million since 2007, when President Rodney H. Mabry and University advancement staff began the Inspiring Excellence campaign. Dr. Mabry said a few

additional gifts are possible in the near future.

This was the first comprehensive fundraising campaign in University history, he said.

The main emphases of the campaign were to attract and retain high-level instructors and students, as well as endowed faculty chairs.

The campaign raised \$13.7 million for student scholarships and \$3.8 million for faculty chairs and professorships.

"We need to be able to attract great students and ... retain strong students from our area," Dr. Mabry said. "The other (focus) was on endowed faculty professorships and chairs to help us bring in and keep our very best faculty."

Deanna Sims, director of major gifts/advancement services, said the student scholarships also would play a major role in recruiting honor students and increasing the prestige of the University.

"In the honors program, it helps us attract some of the best and brightest students," she said. "(It will) raise the culture of our university to that academic level. ... That creates a whole new climate for a level of excellence among our students."

ONLINE

See more details about the campaign at PatriotTalon.com.

» HIGHER EDUCATION

State board pursues core curriculum changes

Questions remain about new academic standards

Terry Britt
News Editor

The University's core curriculum — the multi-disciplinary set of courses required for all degree-seeking students — is undergoing a change that will take effect in the fall of 2014.

Just how different the core will look remains to be seen.

A 14-person workgroup appointed to develop and recommend a new core is in the midst of that task. The University has until this November to submit its proposed core curriculum to the Texas Higher Education

Coordinating Board.

The challenge the University's core curriculum workgroup had before it was due to a change in the number of semester credit hours in some of the core areas. The new core curriculum calls for a total of 42 semester credit hours within a set of realigned component areas.

That stands in contrast to the current list, which allowed as much as 48 hours in a university's core curriculum.

"We didn't really cut anything from the core curriculum. It's more about the emphasis of the core, moving it into what employers need as well as what college graduates should

be able to do," THECB Assistant Director Lucy Heston said.

However, settling on the number of hours in each core curriculum area already has proven a difficult matter, said Dr. Jennifer McLoud-Mann, the associate dean for the University's College of Arts and Sciences, who chairs the core curriculum workgroup.

For example, McLoud-Mann noted that the new core curriculum model calls for six hours in sciences. The University has carried a requirement of eight hours in natural sciences to accommodate two one-hour laboratory courses.

To keep that in place, she explained, the University would have to take two of its six

CHANGES »4

GOAL »4

ONLINE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

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It's finally here

» The Patriot Talon's new website launches today.

Games and more

» Play Sudoku, compare gas prices and add an event to our community calendar on our new site.



Daily fix

» Find us on Facebook and Twitter to stay informed every day.



Finding joy key to living simple life



FLYING BY THE SEAT OF MY PANTS DANIELLE HABERLY

Having a sincere appreciation for the simplicity of life is a great gift. With streamlined technology all around us, things tend to get complicated.

I think this is ironic considering the ultimate goal of discovering and creating this new technology essentially is to simplify life.

Nobody enjoys the simple life more than Shain of "the Holler", a small country community in Sissonville, W.Va. While living in a place with little technology, Shain and his hick friends create fun virtually out of thin air in the new MTV sitcom, "Buckwild."

The theme of the show is to expose this backhoe community as a wonderland for its simple inhabitants.

This makes me wonder, does it take less to entertain a group of young adults without a college degree?

I find myself bored out of my mind on many occasions, yet I have a cornucopia of entertainment resources through the University at my fingertips.

Regardless of my GPA, I never would have thought to construct a swimming pool out of the cargo box on the rear of a semi, like Shain and his friends did.

This gets me thinking in another direction. Maybe they are doing it right- life that is.

Without a college education or a faucet of flowing cash, their level of creativity is fascinating.

I've wanted to ride a bull ever since I attended my first rodeo. Similarly, Ashley, the clique's wild child, had the same aspiration. In a recent episode, both the girls and guys

took their turns jumping on the back of a 1,500-pound beast.

Seeing this gave me an overwhelming sense of jealousy. I've been around the rodeo scene my whole life and never actually mounted one of those things. Sure, Ashley was scared, but she did it.

I discovered that I'm not jealous of their simple lifestyle, it's their guts I covet.

My heart yearns for fearlessness and inexplicable joy.

Can we achieve those things in the college setting? I believe many can, but with the constant level of stress that class creates, a state of perpetual joy or even just a moment is hard to come by.

Maybe only a simple, carefree mind can achieve that. Or maybe it has nothing to do with our brains and everything to do with our environment.

Where we live and who we're around on a daily basis is a major factor.

To achieve joy, we've just got to be in the

right place. But isn't that why we're in school in the first place? We go to school to get a good job that provides the funds to do the things we want, including choosing a place to live.

But maybe it doesn't take money to get there. Residents of the Holler have very little, but they live in a simple place that makes them genuinely happy.

My advice isn't to drop out of school and live in the Holler.

Joy comes in many forms. It takes something different for each of us to reach the deepest kind of contentment.

I want you to think about the things and the places that make you happy. It's important to know where and what to run after.

I know we all have glorious careers ahead of us, but none of that means anything if you're not in a place where you can feel unmistakable joy.

So go out and find it.

It might take years, or in my case, it might only take eight seconds.

For women, combat isn't just limited to boots anymore



SHEDDING LIGHT LYNN DARK

I am amazed by the passion that this subject evokes. We are well past the days of thinking that women should be barefoot and pregnant. Well, most of us are, anyway. Women are present in classrooms and boardrooms.

Women have served as spies, attorneys general and secretaries of state.

I have personally known female Marines that no one, including other male Marines, would want to mess with. I watched one, on a bet, do 100 one-handed chin-ups.

The U.S. armed forces exist to protect us all. They are not fraternities. There is no secret handshake or hazing ritual by which you gain admittance.

At present, there is no draft. Our military consists solely of volunteers. If a woman wants to volunteer for combat duty, that avenue should be open to her.

I can't help but wonder if the pro-Israel and anti-women-in-combat supporters are aware of the fact the Israeli Army is made up of men and women who serve together in com-

bat, and it works just fine. It has for decades.

So why the huge objection here? I think it is a combination of resisting change, a lack of confidence that women can do the job and the remnants of the "boys' club" mentality.

We've had female fighter pilots in our armed services for some time now. Some of the men still don't like it, but they've had to learn to live with it.

I'd like to point out that women who cannot pass a fit for combat physical would not be eligible for what we traditionally think of as combat duty. To be fair, there are men who can't pass that test, either.

That really isn't what this is about, though.

We've had women serving in a multitude of capacities in combat zones for quite some time. They serve as mechanics, supply truck drivers, medics, etc.

Why should a woman driving supplies to the front lines not get credit for serving in combat when her male counterpart sitting in the truck right next to her does? That is just wrong.

All medics serving in combat zones should be credited with serving in combat.

In short, anybody in the military serving in a place where bullets are whizzing past them should get com-

bat duty credit. Period.

Why is this so important? Because combat duty credit gives you an edge when it comes to promotions. Withholding that credit makes it harder to move up in the ranks. Not impossible, just a lot harder.

Then there is the matter of money. People who are classified as serving in combat receive what is called imminent danger pay. Women serving in combat zones are in every bit as much danger as the men who serve there, but they don't get the extra pay.

I went through boot camp in the mid 1980s. I can still remember a lecture given to us by our company commander, Petty Officer Blankenship. She said, "You are no longer white. You are no longer black. You are no longer Hispanic. You are all Navy blue and gold. When the person serving next to you saves your life, are you really going to care about their race?"

That lesson is applicable today, but new terms must be added. If the person serving next to you saves your life, are you really going to care about their gender, their religion or their sexual orientation? No, you are not.

Discrimination in all forms is on the way out. Giving women credit for serving in combat is just one more step toward that end.

CAMPUSVOICE

What's the best/worst Valentine's date you've ever had?

Go to the Campus Voice section at PatriotTalon.com and tell us how much you will spend on your valentine



» My family had a dinner and invited a friend to try and hook us up."

» Katherine Karaki
Freshman math major



» My date dropped me while rock climbing, and the ambulance had to come."

College sometimes seems like more trouble than it's worth



THROUGH MY OWN EYES

ANTWANISE JACKSON

We've all been told this before: "Go to college, make good grades and get a good job." It's been embedded in our minds since we were young that going to college was the key to becoming successful.

However, lately I'm not so sure that the benefits will be worth it, especially when you look at what it costs to go to college, and I'm not just talking about financially. I'm sure there are other students out there besides me wondering, "Is this going to be worth it?" "Why am I here?" and "Is this really going to help me?"

College is supposed to provide us with tools that we'll need to succeed in the real world as well as prepare us for a "real" job or a career that will allow us to make a living. Now, if college is supposed to help us with all of these things, then I have to wonder, why is going to college such a hassle?

First, you have to get into a school. Waiting to see if you got into a college can be both nerve racking and exciting. Although getting into college can be difficult, anyone can get into a school, whether a junior college or a university.

Whether or not it is the school of your first choice is different. Some-

times things don't go our way and we may not end up at our school of choice.

Let's say you were one of the lucky ones to get into that school you've longed about since childhood. Fantastic, here comes the tough part: paying for it. Paying for college is probably the biggest struggle any student has to overcome.

Forget all the homework assignments, exams and papers you have to write. How you're going to get your tuition covered is the biggest headache you'll have.

For me, this is the biggest frustration I have. You tell me I need to go to college to be successful, yet when I get in it's almost impossible for me to afford it.

Sure, there are scholarships, grants and other forms of financial aid, but let's be real, the criteria to qualify for financial aid is an arduous feat. You don't make enough money, but your parents make too much. There are not enough people in your household going to college.

There are too many people in your household. You have qualified for military assistance, but not before you fill out these other 10 documents to prove it.

Your estimated family contribution is too high. You've made too much money this year and the list goes on and on. Obtaining financial aid is exhausting.

So you've gotten past the financial dragon and have been awarded aid.

Now you can register for class-

es and enjoy the semester right? Wrong. You've gotten some financial aid, but do you meet the criteria your school requires to obtain it and was the amount you were given enough?

Chances are, probably not. First of all, there's your actual tuition, which averages about \$8,546 per year for in-state students and about \$19,076 for out-of-staters. Throw in some useless fees, and that highway robbery we call "books" plus room and board and you're looking at about \$22,064 per year. If you're from out of state, it's close to \$32,594.

That's just for your standard public U.S. university. If you want to go to a private school, then double those amounts. Sarah Lawrence, NYU and Columbia are almost triple. I don't know about you but I don't have that kind of money floating around.

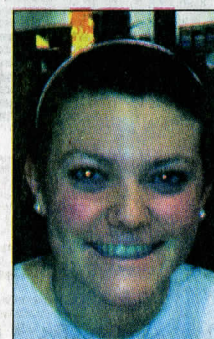
By some fiscal miracle, you've managed to pay for college, and at this time are ready to enter the workforce.

Sorry to burst your bubble, but that may be a little difficult. According to Laura Petrecca from USA Today, about half of those who graduate college don't find employment right after, especially within the field they went to school for.

See what I mean — total hassle.

I'm not saying you should give up completely. I'm just saying if you want to go to college, now's the time to man-up and prepare yourself for the tough times, because the distress is inevitable.

» Kevin Weaver
Sophomore speech major



» Broke up with boyfriend the next day and he took back everything that I gave him."

» Megan Ivey
Sophomore biology major



» Nothing was better than the pop-up valentine cards you got when you were in elementary school."

» Ashley Albro
Graduate psychology student

PATRIOT TALON

EDITOR IN CHIEF: Andy Taylor

ASSOCIATE EDITORS Managing: Morgan Jones Managing: Victor Texcucano
News: Terry Britt **Sports:** Jake Waddingham **Opinion:** Danielle Haberly
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STAFF MEMBERS Antwanise Jackson, Bryan Savens, Chase Hardy, Crysta Hernandez, Eric Protsman, Irving Marmolejo, Kevin Berber, Lynn Dark, Rhiannon Holmes, SherDil Sehgal, Stephanie Long, Tyler Burton, Samantha Copus

MANAGERS Advertising: Andrea Caldwell **Public Relations:** Amanda Davis
Circulation: Elise Follett

ADVISER: Kevin Dilley **BUSINESS COORDINATOR:** Bonnie Davis

Phone: 903-566-7131 • Editor: 903-565-5565 • Ads Only: 903-565-5536
University of Texas at Tyler • Communication Annex, MB2 1100 •
www.patriottalon.com

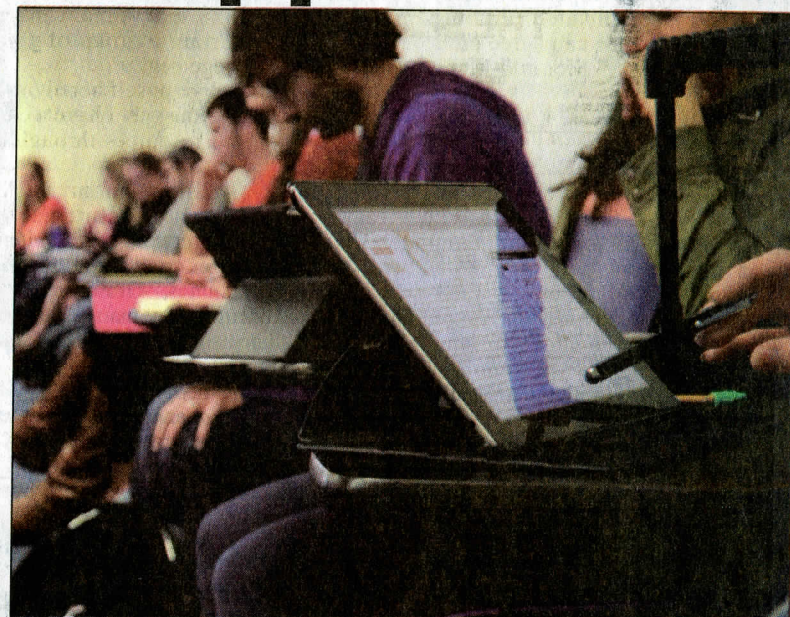
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Taking notes?

There's an app for that



TALON»PHOTOS BY ANDY TAYLOR

Left: Seth Thomas and Andi West use their iPads in Dr. Catherine Ross' English literature class to keep up with her lecture on the novel "Frankenstein."
Above: Ross' English 2323 class is among several classes selected to participate in a program that incorporates iPads into daily course work. Ross was instrumental in the implementation of iPads in the classroom.

iPad program transforms typical learning techniques, course work

Bryan Savens
Staff Writer

An iPad program at the University has given students and faculty the opportunity to learn and teach through a more advanced medium than a regular textbook.

Since its early stages as a pilot program in the English department two years ago, the iPad program began with professors simply offering students an opportunity to have their textbook and learning tools for the class available on an iPad, if the student already owned one.

At the start of the spring semester of 2012, acting Provost Dr. Donna Dickerson found unexpected leftover student fee money that had to be used to benefit student education. These student fees were part of tuition the University had not already used.

After consulting Dr. Catherine Ross, an associate professor of English, and other faculty who were in-

terested in developing the iPad program, Dickerson bought 500 iPads for students to use in the classroom.

"I enjoyed it. I already had an iPad, but I used the iPad they gave us to participate in class and learn a lot easier," sophomore industrial technology major Dallas Quick said. "I'd definitely take another class that offered the program."

The way the program was designed, Ross and the other faculty contacted the professors who had at least two sections of the same class so they could have an iPad section and a control section with out an iPad.

After consulting with the rest of the faculty, they found nine teachers in political science, economics, English literature, composition, mathematics and biology.

Susan Doty, Jessica Coleman and Dr. Ann Beebe were a few of the professors who were onboard to begin

the iPad curriculum.

"We decided they should be used with core classes only, that way everyone in the University would benefit," Ross said. "We wanted to make it a research project, not just have the toy."

After researching how to effectively use the iPads in the classroom, as well as developing a contract with the University and the applications used in the program, the fall 2012 semester featured a new way to learn at the University.

Now in its second semester, Ross is able to reflect somewhat on the program's start and its effectiveness, but only time will tell the overall impact on the students.

"I think the students are happy with the iPads. I think it's helping build better study habits," Ross said. "I still have to push them, though. They like the convenience but it doesn't necessarily make them less

lazy. At least they have it available to them."

While the use of the iPad applications varies by course subject, there are a few that are basic in-class tools that can be used across all the classes.

Notability, an app that allows users to take notes and stay organized, is one that is used frequently by the students and professors. Another faculty favorite, Socrative, allows professors to ask a question to the class, and provides a way for students to answer questions anonymously right from their iPad.

The effectiveness of this program is something that the faculty who designed it is very conscious of. They said they want to do their best to make the program as

beneficial to the students as it can be.

"I would say 80 percent of the students loved it," administrative associate Rebecca Hamblett said. "A lot of the more reserved students liked the iPad because they could anonymously answer questions and participate in class without anyone knowing who it was."

If the positive feedback the program has already received continues, students at the University should be seeing more and more classes that have the iPad program curriculum.

As the program continues to grow and more classes are

added, the future of technology in the classroom and the possibilities that result from it only get brighter, Ross said.

I think the students are happy with the iPads. ... It's helping build better study habits."

»Dr. Catherine Ross
Associate Professor of English

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CHANGES

FROM PAGE 1

hours in the component area option (CAO) to designate for lab courses. That would leave the University with an awkward remainder of four hours to assign to other component areas.

"It's very complicated. Finding something everyone can agree on is a pretty hard task," McLoud-Mann said.

Dr. Catherine Ross, a professor

in the Department of Literature and Languages and a member of the core curriculum workgroup, said she understands the intent behind the THECB's mandate.

"A lot of the courses are not taught like they are related, like they are totally disparate and there is no connection. It's partly a failure on the part of some faculties not being more careful to explain what the core is about," Ross said.

"I know what the coordinating board is trying to do is to get faculty to become more core-friendly. I'm not sure this is the way of going

about it," she added.

Heston maintains that the real change is in a defined set of six course objectives: Critical thinking skills, communication skills, empirical and quantitative skills, teamwork, social responsibility and personal responsibility.

All core courses have to satisfy the course objectives of critical thinking skills and communication skills.

"It is a pedagogical shift, more about how the core is being presented and taught," Heston said. "On the surface, it looks exactly the same. I

would say each institution will have to make the call on how different it is to the student. The goal is to make sure they get the content objectives in addition to the course objectives."

Also of concern to incoming freshmen in 2014 will be how the new core curriculum affects dual-credit courses, an increasingly popular option for students planning to enter college immediately after high school.

"The THECB will have to think about that, because a dual-credit course is a college credit course. That will be a tough one, too, but I

would imagine those are going to have to be resubmitted for approval as well," McLoud-Mann said.

The core curriculum workgroup will submit a recommendation to the University's standing subcommittee for the core curriculum. That subcommittee can accept the workgroup's recommendation, make modifications to the recommendation or propose something else.

The final approval lies with the University's Provost and Senior Vice President Dr. Alisa White. White was unavailable for comment before press time.

MONEY

FROM PAGE 1

and assists students with their financial responsibilities.

"When I got here I thought there was really no reason for us to not provide students with some insight into how they might be able to manage their resources better, but also help them figure out ways to plan for the future," Tolliver said. "Students are oftentimes caught in the now. I have to pay my rent, have to pay my tuition, make sure I have money to go out with my friends, that kind of thing. We also have students that aren't able to pay for their education or they are in a bad spot when they graduate. We want to help them."

Since the University first introduced the program, it has fizzled out of steam and stalled. During the first couple of years of the program, the University strived to meet a state legislator's bill that requires universities to offer fiscal education.

Tolliver partnered with the Office of Student Life and Leadership to provide fiscal education with a presentation during the summer orientation sessions for freshmen and transfer students.

But Tolliver has bigger goals in mind for the money management program.

"There are some components for it that are required as a result of what the legislators expect us to do," Tolliver said. "Also, we really wanted to reemphasize some of the things we were teaching during student orientation to offer it in smaller pockets and make it more useable and user-friendly for our students."

Tolliver asked Gibson to research the potential of adding a money management program at the University.

"When Christina came on board, we were able to expand its offerings. Now she is all over the place," Tolliver said. "Christina has really built the program as you see it today. She is very passionate about it and I think she does an excellent job."

Gibson connected with financial directors at other universities to investigate their money management offices and mirror their services, Gibson said.

"So basically what they have, kind of

like (our) career services center, where students go and get career advice and learn how to do resumes," Gibson said. "They have a student money management center where students can go to get financial advice."

To get the program rolling, Gibson made a money management website with the links and resources that help students understand loans, debt and budgeting.

She also partnered with the Offices of Student Life and Leadership during the summer to present to the freshman orientation sessions.

"Money is something that a lot of the parents were wanting their students to learn about, so it got really popular," Gibson said.

Because it still is in the beginning stages, Gibson is the only staff member currently working with

the program, but she expects to see it grow.

Due to staff limitations, the University is not offering one-on-one sessions with students, but mainly is focusing on presenting information to them at previously scheduled events.

"If a student were to come to me, of course I would sit with them and give them my advice," Gibson said.

Gibson reached out to the Office of Student Life and Leadership, Residence Life and other organizations to network to present at their events.

"We are reaching out to as many connections as we have to get to talk to students," Gibson said. "We have made a lot of progress over this past year."

Senior psychology major Emily Dickenson has seen Gibson's presentation twice.

"I enjoyed it so much the first time I thought it was good of others to see," Dickenson said. "My mom raised me and my brothers so that we are pretty good with our finances. However, I work with a lot of freshman and they don't seem to have a good grasp of budgeting systems and that their money will eventually run

out. Christina is really good at telling them how to budget and giving them different systems and equip them with skills for the real world."

Tolliver had hoped to have the money management program established by now, but plans to see it completed in the next five years.

We also have students that aren't able to pay for their education. ... We want to help them."

**Ona Tolliver
Dean of Students**

Once established as its own office, the money management program will be paired with the career services office and will be directed by a full-time employee.

The Office of Student Affairs gives away T-shirts, pens, piggy banks and calculators with the money management contact information to students to market the program.

"We just really wanted to start to get the word out in a fun, non-intimidating way," Tolliver said. "Our students love T-shirts and I think our students will love to have more money. So we really just wanted to do (something) that is non-threatening to help meet students where they are, and also encourage them to inquire."

Gibson plans to graduate in May and hopes to stay working with the University as a full-time employee with the money management program.

"Since she has given it to me it has become a passion of mine," Gibson said. "It's become my baby. ... I really do see it growing because it has each semester that we have done it (as) I think of new things (and) new outlets that we can do."

GOAL

FROM PAGE 1

Sims also said scholarships would help recruit students who might not be able to come to the University without assistance.

This especially includes athletes, she said, who cannot receive athletic scholarships, under Division III rules, which govern University athletics.

Student-athletes often are unable to have jobs due to time constraints of practices, games and schoolwork.

"It's not always just academic-driven. A lot of times it's necessity-driven," she said. "If (athletes) receive an academic scholarship, one of the things that allows them to do is to continue to play their sport, because otherwise, many of them would have to have jobs that would not allow them the time to be able to play or practice."

Dr. Mabry was proud to have been able to reach this goal, he said, because it shows the East Texas community's commitment to higher learning.

"I am so proud of the people of East Texas who pitched in to help our University," he said. "What it means to me is that the University is a better place. It is a better economic engine for East Texas by being able to bring in really great students, not only from our region, but from the whole country as well."

Most of the money from the campaign came from philanthropic community members, said Jerre Iversen, vice president of university advancement.

This was important, he said, because unlike many other institutions, the University's relatively young age impedes it from having an established charitable alumni group.

"More than most any university I can think of, the community has been much more important (to us than to) any institution around the country," Iversen said.

He also said part of the money would go to help further establish the alumni association, in the form of a physical alumni building, so that University graduates may give philanthropically in the future.

The proposed alumni building is among a few infrastructure projects that were not necessarily the target of the campaign, Iversen said.

More than \$5.1 million was received for capital projects, such as new buildings and structures, even though they were not the focus of the campaign.

Other capital projects include a music building and beautification of the garden outside of Robert R. Muntz Library, Iversen said.

Along with the money raised for student scholarships, faculty chairs, professorships and capital projects, the Inspiring Excellence campaign also raised \$1.9 million for the R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center, \$795,000 from President's Associates and \$612,000 for athletics.

"I am very proud of our development staff, led by (Iversen) and his entire team, for working diligently and carefully to make this very first (comprehensive) campaign for the University successful," Dr. Mabry said.

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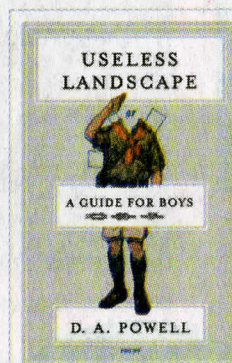


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CALLIE

FROM PAGE 1

The news of Graul's passing struck the Alpha Chi Omega sisterhood when Arnold gathered the women to tell them the news.

"We get there and there were several sisters standing outside and they are all hugging and crying and Callie wasn't there," said Sydney Mann, Graul's Alpha Chi Omega little sister. "I was scanning the room frantically looking for Callie and I knew since I didn't see her. I knew it was about her. That's when I just lost it. I give Sydni full props for not even breaking composure but she told me all the details of how she was brain dead and I lost it."

A candlelight vigil is scheduled tomorrow night in honor of Graul. The service will start in the University Center Theater at 6 p.m. and will continue around the Bell Tower if weather permits.

"I think it is a good idea because she was so active on campus," Flores said. "I like that we are tying it with UT Tyler because she was involved so much."

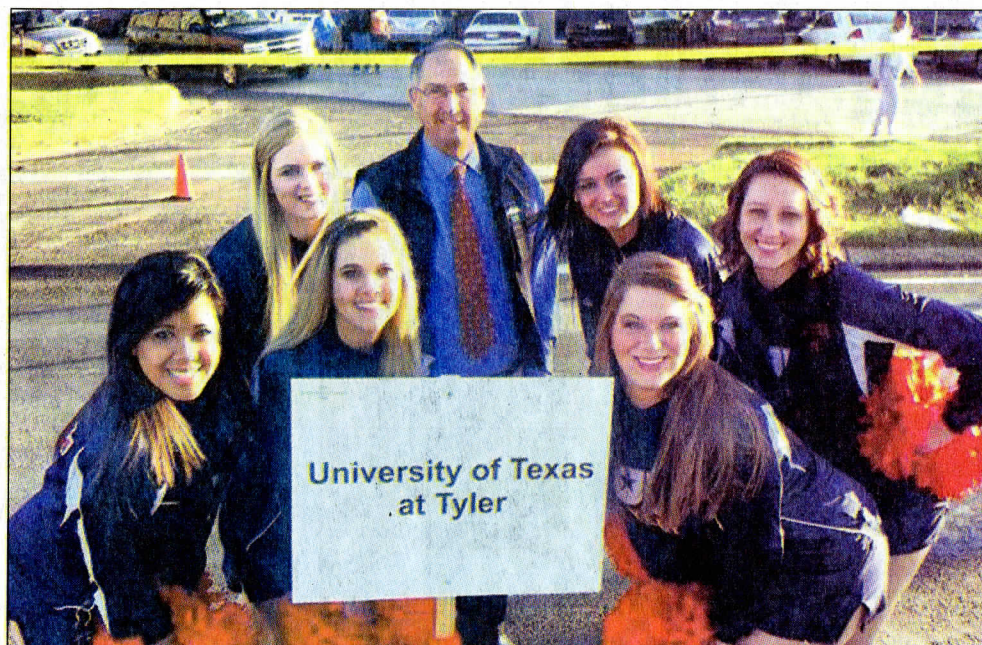
Graul was more than just a student. She was a Patriot Dancer, Alpha Chi Omega sister and friend to many.

"She had a group of friends that every girl wishes they had," Patriot Dancers coach Jessica Reel said. "There are so many people that loved her. That's one of the things that I regret about Callie's passing is I don't know if she knew how much I cared about her. So it's taught me you really need to show the people you love and care about what they mean to you, and don't waste a moment on negativity or hate because life is just too short."

The memorial vigil is an opportunity for the campus to remember a young woman friends describe as caring and active.

"I just want everyone to know that she wasn't only a sorority girl. She was a Patriot Dancer and she loved that so much," Arnold said. "She loved going out there and participating and being with her dance sisters."

On the day of Graul's death, the University's Office of Student Services counselors opened their doors for the students who needed to talk.



Callie Graul (top left) and the Patriot Dancers pose with President Rodney H. Mabry. Graul died Jan. 31 from an unexpected brain tumor.

"I think a lot of times students don't realize that their grief and the way they are grieving is normal," said Kimberly Harvey-Livingston, director of student services. "It doesn't make that easier, but there is a normal process to grief."

Since Graul's death, there have been several students who have used the resources provided by the counselors. The counselors are available to talk either by appointment or walk-in. The office is located in the University Center in room 3170.

"We have licensed professional counselors here on staff, so we definitely offer counseling," Harvey-Livingston said. "We also can go out if there is a group of students that need to talk through what's happened. We can be there when students are told. We have been involved in that process before, really, just wherever the students need us."

Ona Tolliver, assistant vice president for student affairs and dean of student said when an enrolled student dies, the Office of Student Affairs is there to help.

The office assists the Office of the Registrar in acquiring any outstanding documentation. So if there is an obituary or death certificate, they work with the family or acquire the information in a non-intrusive way, Tolliver said.

"We also provide support to the family as needed," Tolliver

said. "Oftentimes, they want to know what their child was like while they were at the University and they want a point of contact for that."

Graul attended Whitehouse High School and was a dance line member of the Whitehouse First Ladies Drill Team. She came to the University in 2010, in hope of getting her degree in kinesiology. She planned to have her own dance studio.

"She was so tall and she had those legs for days. She would always be in the middle because she was the tallest," Reel said. "That was great because everything she did was so beautiful and impressive because she had these long legs she could throw around in leaps and kicks."

During her two and a half years on the team, Graul had a leadership quality even when she wasn't in a leadership position, Reel said.

"She was very strong-willed and confident," Reel said. "She was definitely a leader. Her group of friends looked to her on how they were going to act and what their opinion was going to be on something."

During fall 2011, Graul pledged with Alpha Chi Omega and immediately caught the attention of Arnold for possessing the qualities that they sought in women, she said.

"I remember seeing her. I didn't actually meet her during recruitment because of the way we do it, not every

person meets every girl, but I remember seeing her," Arnold said. "She was tall, blonde and very well put together and very pretty... Then, during our voting process, we talk about all the girls and I remember girls saying (she was) personable, charismatic, outgoing and things like that."

This was Graul's fourth semester as an Alpha Chi sister. She served as T-shirt chair and assistant vice president of recruiting.

"She just always had the best interest in heart for us," Arnold said. "She made sure that it was what the girls wanted, and very cute shirts I might add."

Both organizations mourned the loss of Graul, but focused their intentions on remembering the amazing girl she was and celebrating her.

The Patriot Dancers organized "Cram the Court" at the men's and women's basketball game Feb. 5 and preformed a routine in memory of Graul. Alpha Chi Omega gave cheetah-print bows and encouraged everyone to wear red, Graul's favorite print and color, to flood the stands. Graul's friends passed out 650 ribbons. Among the crowd was Graul's brother Shea, who was invited to attend by her friends.

"I think it is an important part of the grieving process is to do something about it and physically expressing it," Reel said. "That's a good way to help them cope and move on."

POLICE REPORTS

The Patriot Talon collected the following information from public reports released by the University Police Department and the Tyler Police Department. All police reports obtained by the Talon are public records as defined under Texas Open Records law.

FEB. 5**Theft**

A University student reported the theft of nine flash drives from her backpack, which was in the Herrington Patriot Center locker room.

Theft: Under \$50

An unknown person removed a parking sticker off a blue truck parked in Lot 3.

ments due to an alcohol complaint.

FEB. 3**Criminal trespass**

A criminal trespass warning was given to an individual at University Pines Apartments.

FEB. 1**Criminal mischief (misdemeanor)**

A student reported his apartment window was broken by unknown individual.

FEB. 4**Burglary of vehicle (misdemeanor)**

A student reported unauthorized use and burglary of vehicle.

FEB. 4**Alcohol offense (misdemeanor)**

An officer was dispatched to University Pines Apartments

JAN. 30**Accident: Motor vehicle**

An officer was dispatched to assist a Tyler Police Department officer with a vehicle accident.

LOST AND FOUND

The university police have the following items in the lost and found department. All items will be held for 60 days after publication. To reclaim, call (903) 566-7060 and ask for lost and found, provide the item number and further description of the property.

Item #	Received	Description
100000000948	10/25	Travel adaptor
100000000962	10/29	Pocket knife
100000000974	10/31	Gold key
100000000975	10/31	Key on lanyard
100000000971	10/31	Black backpack
100000000990	11/8	Eyeglasses
100000000991	11/8	Contact case
100000000994	11/8	ID card
A-1	12/1	ID card
100000001028	12/18	Earring
100000001034	10/25	Safety glasses
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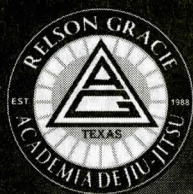
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Feb. 14 @ 6:30 p.m.

NEW MOVIES

A Good Day to Die Hard

Feb. 13

Rated R

Safe Haven

Feb. 14

Rated PG-13

Snitch

Feb. 22

Rated N/A

MUSIC RELEASES

Feb. 12 Matt Costa

"Matt Costa"

Feb. 26 Johnny Marr

"The Messenger"

'Sound City' explores human side of music

MOVIE REVIEW

VICTOR TEXCUCANO

Dave Grohl has struck gold again. The living rock legend, famous for his roles in Nirvana, Foo Fighters and Them Crooked Vultures, made his directorial debut in "Sound City."

"Sound City" is a rock documentary that explores the history of the legendary Sound City Studios in Van Nuys, Calif. It began its remarkable role in rock music in the 1970s.

On paper, Sound City Studios shouldn't have become a celebrated part of rock history, the film says. It was a decrepit building in a run-down neighborhood. Brown shag carpet lined many of the walls.

But the fabled building's entrance boasts gold and plat-

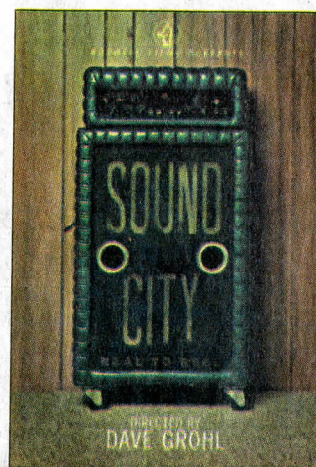
inum records from renowned rock acts, such as Foreigner, Neil Young, Rick Springfield, Fleetwood Mac, Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers, Rage Against the Machine, Nirvana and many, many more.

There was something about Sound City. Something that brought great artists to record in the tired building. It was the sound that brought greatness to an otherwise forgettable studio.

The film follows a simple premise: the human element to making music.

"Sound City" delves into the studio's music-making technology, which included analog tape and a famous Neve 8028 recording console, designed by British engineer Rupert Neve, which the studio owners bought for \$76,000. At the time (the 1970s), many houses cost half that.

Recording music on analog tape required artists to be



TALON ROSWELL FILMS

more precise and work harder to achieve their desired sound.

Digital technology, which began appearing in the 1980s, allowed artists to be lazier and less clinical because they could digitally manipulate their recordings later.

Music in the 1980s began to have an unnatural sound.

"Sound City" explains how artists used to make real music. No computers. No Pro Tools. No GarageBand, and certainly no auto-tune.

Grohl was inspired to make the film upon hearing of Sound City's closing in 2011.

He was motivated to pay homage to the studio in which Nirvana's classic Album, "Nevermind," was recorded. "Nevermind" was the album that skyrocketed Nirvana into stardom, and subsequently elevated Grohl's career.

Grohl says in the film that he owes his status in the business to not only that album, but also the studio in which it was recorded.

Grohl fondly refers to how the Neve 8028 console "changed his life."

Fittingly, he bought said console after the studio's closing for an undisclosed

amount of money.

The rest of the film follows the recording of an album using the famous soundboard.

Grohl and his Foo Fighter bandmates recorded an album using the Neve 8028, along with many of the artists who recorded at Sound City Studios, including Queen of the Stone Age's Josh Homme and Alain Johannes, Rage Against the Machine's Brad Wilk and Tim Commerford, as well as Rick Springfield, Stevie Nicks and many more.

Other artists, such as Paul McCartney and Trent Reznor, lend their legendary talent to the album, which will be released March 12.

"Sound City" offers an interesting view of rock history. It's gritty, funny and emotional at times.

Grohl and company do a great job of telling a beautiful story. I highly recommend it to music fans.

Here's what you need to know before the Oscars

COMMENTARY

SAMANTHA COPUS

The million-dollar smiles worn by the A-list celebrities every year at the Academy Awards are planning to come down the red carpet again at this year's ceremony on Feb. 24.

In the past, the nominees have had confidence radiating on the outside, but inside, anxiety is gripping their hearts, and this year is predicted to be no different.

We will all wait in anticipation to discover who will win the 12 prestigious titles of 2013.

The nominations for best actor hold many famous, familiar faces. Blue-eyed Bradley Cooper's role in "Silver Linings Playbook" awarded him his first-time nomination for an Oscar. Cooper plays a bipolar man released from a mental health facility.

Another first-timer is Hugh Jackman. Jackman trades in his Wolverine claws for a voice that carries in "Les Misérables."

Denzel Washington, who has won two awards in previous years, is nominated for his performance in "Flight." He plays a courageous pilot that saves a plane of people from crashing.

Joaquin Phoenix is recognized for his role in "The Master." Phoenix plays a World War II veteran with post-traumat-

ic stress disorder.

Daniel Day Lewis brought Abraham Lincoln back to life, portraying him in the film "Lincoln."

Women of all ages have been nominated for best actress.

Naomi Watts' emotional role as a tourist during the tsunami of 2004 won over people's hearts in "Impossible."

Jessica Chastain's role as a CIA agent in "Zero Dark Thirty" caught attention, giving her the chance to snatch an Academy Award.

At 85, Emmanuelle Riva is the oldest best actress nominee in history. She is recognized for her role in the French film "Amour." In contrast to Riva, Quvenzhané Wallis is the youngest nominee at 9 years old. The brown-eyed girl plays in "Beasts of Southern Wild."

"Girl on fire," Jennifer Lawrence is burning up the popularity chart. She's nominated for her sex-obsessive role in "Silver Linings Playbook." Being the youngest person nominated for two academy awards, Lawrence is sure to be a tough competitor in this category.

The directors of 2012 stepped up their creativeness to the highest level.

Michael Haneke is nominated for "Amour." Benh Zeitlin directed the fantasy drama "Beasts of the Southern Wild." Ang Lee brings to life the story "Life of Pi." David O. Russell brings us the romantic comedy "Silver Linings Playbook." Co-founder of Dreamworks, Steven Spielberg transports his viewers



TALON PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ACADEMY OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS AND SCIENCES

Robert De Niro and Bradley Cooper talk at the Oscar Nominees Luncheon in Beverly Hills on Feb. 4.

back in time with his film, "Lincoln."

The nail-biter everyone is on the edge of their seat for is the title of Best Picture.

The nominees are as follows: "Amour," "Argo," "Beasts of the Southern Wild," "Django Unchained," "Les Misérables," "Life of Pi," "Lincoln," "Silver Linings Playbook" and "Zero Dark Thirty."

There are a wide variety of films nom-

inated for the honorable award, including a bipolar love story and the killing of the world's most wanted terrorist. Any of the innovative films nominated would live up to the title.

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Making Tyler funny: Changing the city, 1 laugh at a time

Lauren Barnes
A&E Editor

When Jamey Whitley graduated from the University in 2010, he thought Tyler would be a great center for comedy.

That's when he traveled to Chicago to study at Second City, the same school that trained many of the Saturday Night Live stars, such as John Belushi, Chris Farley and Tina Fey. After studying improv at the prestigious comedy club, Whitley decided to pursue a path he began in college; bringing great comedy to Tyler.

"It's my goal to make a comedy scene in this town," Whitley said. "I want people in Longview, Nacogdoches, Athens, Palestine and Mexia to know there is comedy going on in downtown Tyler."

Whitley started working with Anne Payne, Liberty Hall manager, to bring a comedy presence to Tyler. Liberty Hall is a revitalized theater that offers live entertainment downtown. Whitley volunteers to help Payne promote and produce all the comedy shows at Liberty Hall.

"As far as the Liberty is concerned, he is the primary reason we do comedy," Payne said. "Jamey just came in one day, and I was introduced to him, and it just went from there. He pretty much just took the ball and ran with it."

Besides working to bring comedy to Tyler, Jamey spends time promoting other events for the community.

"Jamey is great at promotion and he doesn't just promote Card 53 and the Liberty," Payne said. "He is a great communicator, so if there is an event going on, or if someone needs help working an event, he is always willing to jump in there and help out. There aren't as many people with as much energy and enthusiasm as him."

The largest event Whitley has been a part of is the East Texas Comedy Festival, which debuted in June.

The event lasted two nights and included stand-up comedians and two improv groups. Nikki Pierce and Ross Bryant, who are instructors at Second City, taught improv workshops.

"My pride and joy has been the East Texas Comedy Festival," Whitley said. "This coming year the festival is going to be even bigger and I just cannot wait for it."

The festival will re-



TALON COURTESY PHOTOS

Top: Members of Card 53 Comedy: (from left to right) Brad Johnson, R.J. Norman, Chris Brantley, Jamey Whitley, Chris Pelton, Aaron Smith and Matt King. **Left:** Whitley and the rest of Card 53 Comedy group can be seen live on Saturday at Liberty Hall.

turn to Liberty Hall June 14 and 15.

Whitley appreciates participating in the revitalization of downtown Tyler.

"I love being a part of the theater but more importantly, the mission of downtown Tyler and the Main Street program," Whitley said. "Downtown Tyler is changing and I am honored to be a part of it."

He said he wouldn't be where he is today without the University.

While Whitley was a journalism student, there wasn't a theater program, just an acting class. That's where Whitley met Aaron Smith and discussed the need for a theater presence on campus.

"We both wanted to do more theater on campus, so we decided to take matters in our own hands and started a theater organization called Patriot



Act," Whitley said.

The organization didn't have a budget, so Smith had the idea to do improv, because you don't need money to get started. Shortly after, Chris Pelton joined the group.

"Aaron and Chris had done some improv with a group in high school and we were naturally funny guys. When we were together, funny things just happened," Whitley said.

They had their first improv show at the University in December 2010.

The three original members continued performing together after graduation under the name Card 53 Comedy.

"Getting to do this with your best friends has been such an amazing part of why I love doing what we do,"

Whitley said.

Through the years, Card 53 has grown from the three original members to seven.

The current Card 53 members are Whitley, Smith, Pelton, Brad Johnson, R.J. Norman, Matthew King VIII and Chris Brantley.

Whitley said they are gaining experience and chemistry with every show.

"Of course, with every group there are times of drama and stress, but I can say we're at a point where I feel we are the tightest we have ever been," Whitley said.

Whitley has aspirations for Card 53 to continue growing. He said he would like to create channels on YouTube and FunnyorDie.com, popular viral

video websites. He also would like to perform live shows once a week.

Whitley said the University helped him in his career by doing more than just providing a performing stage.

"Everything that I have done from a producer standpoint has been very influenced by my college classes," Whitley said. "I was able to start doing something most people in this industry don't do, and that is creating my own opportunities using the skills that I have acquired through my degree."

Whitley said he always has thought of himself as a funny person. In high school, he would make his friends laugh by flirting with girls, and ended up winning the title "Biggest Flirt."

In college, his comedic persona stayed and he transitioned from the role of biggest flirt to class clown.

Whitley said he put his animated personality to use as a way of coping with a difficult breakup.

"When I was in front of an audience, it literally would put a Band-Aid over the pain," Whitley said. "I wanted to make other people laugh, so if they were going through a tough time in their life, I would be able to make them laugh, and for that moment they were able to experience happiness."

Whitley uses a Steve Martin quote to explain what comedy means to him.

"According to Steve Martin, 'Comedy is the art of making people laugh without making them puke,'" Whitley said. "If I didn't have comedy, I wouldn't be breathing right now."

Whitley said his favorite part of being a comedian is having a positive impact on others.

"I love using my comedy talents to help people," Whitley said. "I've been through some really dark places in my life, and when I am able to make someone laugh, I feel for that moment, no matter what is going on in their life, they are happy."

Whitley said he believes he has grown as a comedian through the years and has learned from his mistakes.

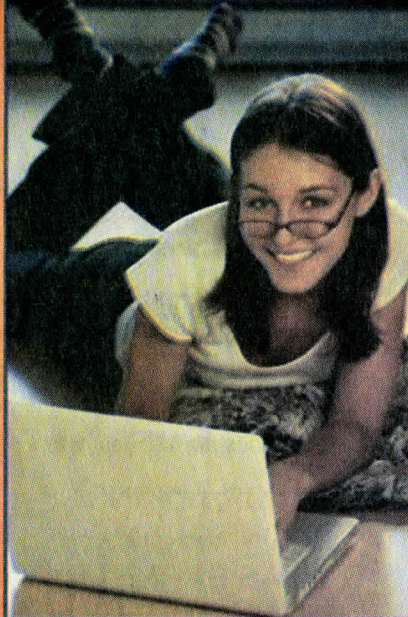
"When I got into comedy, I made the mistake of always trying to be funny. I learned in comedy if you try to be funny, most of the time you won't be," Whitley said. "I've learned to embrace those moments when I'm not funny."

The next opportunity to see Whitley perform live is Saturday at "Liberty Hall Presents: The President's Day Comedy Show."

"Let's face it, there is nothing really funny about President's Day. No one really makes plans to go out of town for President's Day, or give gifts for it," Whitley said. "So we're making a comedy show out of it."



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Playoff bound

Men and women clinch spots in the ASC postseason

Tyler Burton
Staff Writer
Jake Waddingham
Sports Editor

Coach Kenny Bizot and the University men's basketball team capped off a six-game home stretch with an 81-65 win over East Texas Baptist University on Feb. 5.

Junior guard Jordan Cannon led all scorers with 19 points, while Joe Stephens and Nathan Harbour chipped in 15 each.

With the victory, the Patriots set a new school record for most wins in a season as they improved to 17-6.

"The six game home stretch went well for us, going 5-1. I'm proud of our guys, but we aren't finished yet," Bizot said.

On Jan. 31, the team fell to rival University of Texas at Dallas for the second time this season by a score of 63-54.

Travis Dykman led the way with 12 points, while Darren Houliston added 11 points and five rebounds.

The Comets shot over 50 percent from the field and out-rebounded the Patriots 30-24.

Three days later, the Patriots easily defeated American Southwest Conference opponent University of the Ozarks by a score of 95-63.

Five Patriots scored in double figures, led by Dykman's 17 points.

Seniors Stephen Tarpley, Dallas Bean and Darren Houliston were honored during senior day.

"My senior year has been a special one. Coach Bizot and Coach Henley have been great and I can't say enough about my teammates," Houliston said. "I'm really excited for this last stretch of the season and seeing how far this team can go in the playoffs."

The men need to win their next two

games and hope for a UT Dallas loss in order to secure the East Division title.

WOMEN

The Patriots 72-44 win over LeTourneau on Feb. 7 clinched a spot in the ASC tournament and moved the ladies into second place in the East Division.

Head coach Kevin Baker and the women's team has defeated five-straight conference opponents. The win streak dates back to Jan. 26 when the Patriots defeated Mississippi College at home, 65-54.

UT Dallas, Ozarks and ETBU also fell victim to the Patriots, who are now 16-7 overall.

Coming on strong for the University down the final stretch of the regular season has been senior guard Olivia Burns.

She netted 17 points in the win over ETBU during her final home game.

"We know what we need to do to be successful, now it's just a matter of executing," Burns said. "It is important for us to just take it one day at a time."

She also was in double-digits against LETU, adding 13 points for the Patriots.

Taylor Murphy also has been a corner stone for the University's offensive attack in the past two games.

Murphy had 16 points in the win over ETBU and had a team-high 16 points at LETU.

"For me personally, I have so much confidence in our team as a whole," Burns said. "Our team truly cares about one another and we fight every day to see each other succeed."

Action begins again on Feb. 14 when they go on the road to take on ASC foe Mississippi College at 7:30.

The women need a win over Mississippi College or Louisiana College on Feb. 16 to tie the record for most wins in a single season at 17.



Men's Standings

East Division	ASC	Overall
UT Tyler	12-5	17-6
UT Dallas	11-5	16-6

Women's Standings

East Division	ASC	Overall
La. College	15-1	20-2
UT Tyler	11-6	16-7

UT Dallas	11-5	16-6	UT Tyler	11-6	16-7
Miss. College	8-7	12-9	UT Dallas	11-6	15-8
LeTourneau	8-8	9-13	Miss. College	9-7	12-10
La. College	7-8	7-10	East Texas Bap.	9-8	14-9
East Texas Bap.	5-11	9-13	Ozarks	7-10	11-12
Ozarks	3-13	6-16	LeTourneau	4-13	7-16

West Division ASC	Overall	West Division ASC	Overall
UMHB	15-1	Howard Payne	15-2
Concordia	12-4	Concordia	12-5
Hardin-Simm.	11-5	Hardin-Simm.	11-6
Schreiner	8-9	UMHB	6-11
Texas Luth.	5-12	Texas Luth.	5-13
Howard Payne	4-12	Schreiner	4-14
Sul Ross St.	4-13	Sul Ross St.	0-17
	5-18		1-22



TALON PHOTO BY JAKE WADDINGHAM

Junior transfer student Travis Dykman rises up for a baseline jumper over two UT Dallas defenders during a home game on Jan. 31. The men's team leads the ASC East with a 12-5 conference record.

Patriots begin season looking for 7th-straight ASC East title



TALON PHOTO BY VICTOR TEXCUCANO

Setup pitcher Cody Jones and members of the Patriot baseball team relax in the dugout during practice on Feb. 5. The Patriots, who went 33-12 (14-4 ASC) in 2012, look to win the ASC East division for the seventh straight year. The team is led by new head coach Chris Bertrand, who last served as pitching coach and recruiting coordinator at Louisiana State University in Shreveport. The Patriots are 2-1 on the young season after defeating Rogers State and Tabor College. They fell to Dallas Christian on Saturday, 7-2.

DIII approves social media for recruiting

Jake Waddingham
Sports Editor

Coaches can now use social media in the recruiting process after Division III delegates narrowly passed a proposal to expand contact with athletic prospects at the National Collegiate Athletic Association Convention.

By a vote of 246-227-4, Proposal No. 9 allows coaches and athletes to communicate via Facebook, Twitter and any other social media site.

The proposal was brought to the floor by the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Contact must be strictly between the sender and receiver and cannot use public chat rooms or message boards.

Coaches are not allowed to "friend" a prospect on Facebook.

For example, a coach cannot write on a recruit's wall or send a tweet, but he or she could send the prospect a Facebook message or a direct message on Twitter.

Concordia University's Dalaine Whitlock spoke against the proposal on the floor on behalf of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

Whitlock represented the American Southwest Conference and the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference. She also serves on the DIII management council.

"We felt it was inconsistent with the DIII philosophy," Whitlock said. "It was basically removing all boundaries."

SAAC is allowed to speak during meetings and on the floor to give student-athletes a voice to sway delegates at the convention, but is not allowed to cast a vote.

Whitlock said the student's experience in Div. III athletics is very different from a Div. I or Div. II recruit and the recruiting process should reflect that.

In Div. I and Div. II, coaches are allowed to directly "friend" recruits on Facebook.

"We already have email and text messaging and we felt they were sufficient in recruiting," Whitlock said. "There is no benefit to the student-athlete, only the coaches."

At the 2012 NCAA Convention, Div. III allowed coaches to use text messaging to reach recruits, along with phone calls, email and fax.

Head softball coach and the Assistant Athletic Director over NCAA compliance Mike Reed said the use of social media will not have a major impact on his program.

"For us, a personal message with a call or a text is easier than logging in," Reed said.

Reed said regulating communication via social media was difficult to track, so the new rule makes monitoring recruiting a little easier.

Whitlock said any athlete interested in Div. III athletics should actively include their parents and mentors. The less private it is, the more comfortable the student-athlete can be.

"Typically, the coach is in control of the recruiting process, but in DIII, the student-athlete is in control," Whitlock said.

SCORE BOARD

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Jan. 31, @Home

UT Tyler 54
UT Dallas 63

Feb. 2, @Home

UT Tyler 95
Ozarks 63

Feb. 5, @Home

UT Tyler 81
East Texas Baptist 65

Feb. 7, @Longview, Texas

UT Tyler 62
LeTourneau 59

Feb. 14, @Clinton, Miss.

7:30 p.m.
UT Tyler
Mississippi College

Feb. 16, @Pineville, La.

3 p.m.
UT Tyler
Louisiana College

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Jan. 31, @Home

UT Tyler 65
UT Dallas 55

Feb. 2, @Home

UT Tyler 64
Ozarks 55

Feb. 5, @Home

UT Tyler 83
East Texas Baptist 56

Feb. 7, @Longview, Texas

UT Tyler 72
LeTourneau 44

Feb. 14, @Clinton, Miss.

5:30 p.m.
UT Tyler
Mississippi College

Feb. 16, @Pineville, La.

1 p.m.
UT Tyler
Louisiana College

BASEBALL

Feb. 8, @Dallas, Texas

UT Tyler 3
Rogers State 1

Feb. 9, @Dallas, Texas

UT Tyler 3
Tabor College 0

Feb. 9, @Dallas, Texas

UT Tyler 2
Dallas Christian 7

Feb. 15, @Home

»PATRIOT PROFILE: CHRIS BERTRAND, HEAD BASEBALL COACH

Bertrand looks to improve postseason success



Patriot Profile will feature a different outstanding Patriot each issue, chosen by the Patriot Talon sports staff.

Athlete: Chris Bertrand
Age: 30
Hometown: Abbeville, La.

Bertrand was named the baseball head coach last summer. He hopes to lead the Patriots to a seventh-straight ASC East championship season.

Q: Who was your favorite baseball player while growing up? My favorite baseball player was Cal Ripken, Jr. He played every day no matter what. He revolutionized the game for shortstops.

Q: What influenced you to start coaching? The love and passion for the game drew me to coaching. When this game is in your blood, you can't get it out.

My collegiate coach at Louisiana College, Mike Byrnes, is truly the one that turned me on to coaching.

Q: Do you model your style of coaching after anyone? I think you try to put your own stamp on everything that you do when the opportunity comes and everything you have learned from watching and interacting with other leaders.

Q: What is one thing you want your team to learn this season? I want my team to learn that life and baseball is about the way you go about your day-to-day business. Successful people have championship habits.

If you would like to nominate an outstanding Patriot athlete for the next issue, email the Patriot Talon sports editor at sports@patriottalon.com.

»See the full interview with Coach Bertrand at the new and improved www.patriottalon.com

Men's tennis defeats No. 25 team to begin spring play

Chase Hardy
Staff Writer

Coming off their fifth-straight American Southwest Conference title, the tennis teams are looking for yet another ASC championship.

Last season, the men took it down to the wire and won the tournament in their last match. The women dominated in their performance, winning 5-0 over the University of Texas at Dallas.

For their past performances, the teams have been ranked No. 9 in the West Region according to the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Pre-season rankings.

"The West Region is one of the tougher regions," head coach Chris Bizot said. "It's not going to be easy."

Winning the conference is not the only goal for the teams this season, Bizot said.

The teams are working their way into getting further in the NCAA tournament and possibly winning an NCAA championship.

"They aren't just satisfied winning conference," Bizot said. "They want to do damage going into the NCAA (tournament)."

This year's team for the men will have some new faces that have transferred from Division I schools.

Bizot said Daniel Brown, Ryan Ybarra and Ramon Martinez will have a big impact on this year's team.

The Patriot men won their first two games of this young season with a



sity over OC's Paulo Roessle.

The men's team has won nine-straight East Division championships to complement their five-straight conference titles.

The Patriot men will play their next game against Hardin-Simmons at 9 a.m. on Feb. 23 in Abilene.

WOMEN

The Patriot women have not got-



Feb. 15, @Home

6 p.m.

UT Tyler
Hardin-Simmons

SOFTBALL

Feb. 16, @Belton, Texas

1 p.m. & 3 p.m.

UT Tyler
Mary Hardin-Baylor

Feb. 24, @Home

1 p.m. & 3 p.m.

UT Tyler
Trinity

****For complete sports schedule, check the calendar at: www.patriottalon.com**

games of this young season with a huge win over No. 25-ranked Gustavus Adolphus and a win over Oklahoma Christian.

Ybarra had an impressive victory over the Gusties' in singles play, beating ITA's No. 8 ranked player in the nation, 4-6, 6-4 and 6-1.

Brown and Ramon Martinez both won their singles matches as well, with Brown winning 6-2, 7-6 (5) and Martinez winning 6-4, 6-2.

Oklahoma Christian was the NAIA national champion last season before moving to NCAA Division II.

Ybarra and Brown kicked things off with a huge victory over the No. 8 ranked team in doubles competition, 9-7.

The duo also won their singles matches.

Tied 4-4, the Patriots needed senior Ryan Spencer to win his single match.

He took the match in two sets, 7-5, 7-5, to clinch the win for the Univer-

sity. The Patriot women have not gotten off to the same start as the men, but still have a lot of potential for the season.

With no seniors on the squad, the Patriots will look for leadership from Amy Friesenhahn and junior Jessica Blundell.

The pair is ranked No. 16 and No. 17 respectively in singles play in the West.

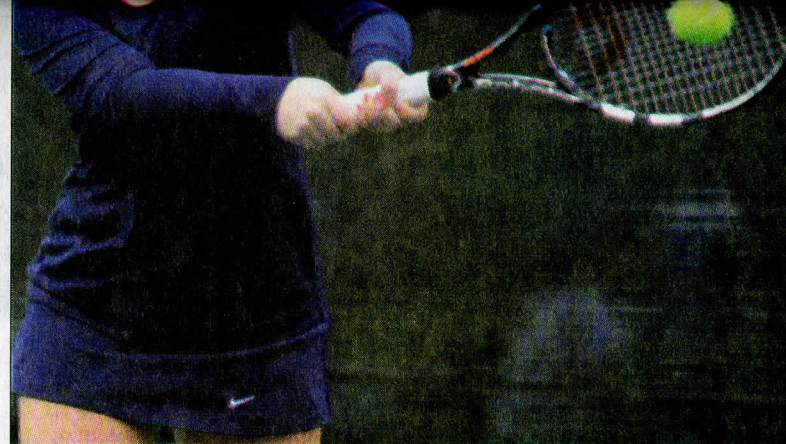
Friesenhahn and her double's partner Rachel Cole are ranked fifth in doubles.

The women lost their first game to Dallas Baptist at home, 7-2.

Nicole Musgni won her singles match 7-5, 7-5, and also was part of the doubles win.

The women's second game against Henderson State was canceled due to weather conditions.

The Patriot women will play their next game against LaVerne at 1 p.m. on Feb. 17 at Summers Tennis Center.



TALON »PHOTOS BY JAKE WADDINGHAM

Top: Daniel Brown sends a quick backhand return during a double's match against Oklahoma Christian on Feb. 9. **Above:** Sophomore Jennifer Payne drills a shot down the line during the Patriot's season opener against Dallas Baptist.

No. 9 softball picked to win ASC East Division

Jake Waddingham
Sports Editor

Before the first pitch has been tossed from the center circle of the diamond, the University's softball team already is a favorite to win the American Southwest Conference East Division.

The Patriots collected 19 of the 21 possible first place votes to be the favorite to win the East. Last season, the team finished 38-9 overall and won a division and conference title.

Under the direction of head coach Mike Reed, the Patriots also start the season ranked ninth in the nation in the National Fastpitch Coaches Association poll.

"We have eight seniors back, the biggest senior class I have ever had," Reed said. "We are going to go with their leadership and that experience will be a bonus."

Two of those seniors also earned preseason honors to complement the team's top preseason ranking.

Third baseman Ashley Endsley was picked to be the ASC East Division Preseason Player of the Year. She led the team with 10 home runs and 50 RBIs.

"The way they judge that award is stats from last year," Endsley said. "I still have things to work on to be a better player."

She was also named to the NFCA All-West Region Second Team and was a member of the First Team All-ASC.

Senior hurler Heather Abshire was named the ASC East Division Preseason Pitcher of the Year. She posted



TALON »PHOTO BY VICTOR TEXCUCANO

Members of the 2013 softball squad take practice swings during media day on Feb. 5. The Patriots are ranked No. 9 in the National Fastpitch Coaches Association poll.

seven shutouts last season and was also a productive part of the Patriot offense, batting .387.

"Pitching with this team behind me no matter who is playing is a great honor," Abshire said. "This whole

team from senior to freshman has a lot of talent and big hearts."

Her postseason honors included a spot on the NFCA All-West Region First Team, and she joined Endsley on the First Team All-ASC.

"I think we have great depth and I think we can go several different directions based on the needs of the game or injuries that come up," Reed said.

Reed said all the seniors have con-

tributed to the team, but the competition for each spot starts over at the beginning of the season.

The Patriots begin the season against the favorite in the ASC West Division, Mary Hardin-Baylor.

The Cru led the conference in runs scored last season with 233 and has won the West seven years in a row.

In the East, the University will be challenged by East Texas Baptist University. The Tigers won the national title in 2010.

Louisiana College was picked third in the preseason conference poll and has made the national tournament eight straight seasons.

"I think everyone in our conference has worked hard to bring in better players," Reed said. "We feel like this is our hardest schedule."

Outside the ASC, the Patriots have a double-header scheduled with Pacific Lutheran University.

The Lutes begin the season ranked first in the NFCA poll. PLU claimed the NCAA Division III national title after defeating the Patriots in the regional final.

"As a team, our big goal is a national championship," Abshire said. "My goal is helping my team have the best chance while I'm pitching or batting."

The University also will face tough nonconference competition at the NFCA Leadoff Classic on March 8 in Columbus, Georgia.

"Our biggest strength is that we have people that can do everything and fill in spots where we need them," Endsley said. "We also have a lot of team chemistry that will help us in the long run."



TALON PHOTO BY VICTOR TEXCUCANO

University student Megan Allen speaks at the Rally Against Rape outside The Met cafe on Jan. 31. Allen is a sexual health educator on campus.

'Rally Against Rape' addresses sexual issues

Crysta Hernandez
Staff Writer

While many University students went home to enjoy the holiday season with their families this winter break, both India and the United States faced rape cases that would spark a hot topic in world news: sexual violence against women.

Prompted by rape cases in Steubenville, Ohio, and New Delhi, India, an organization called Promoting Awareness, Victim Empowerment, or PAVE, coordinated with the University's Wellness and Prevention Center to hold a "Rally Against Rape" on Jan. 31. The rally addressed rape culture in communities and universities throughout the United States.

At the rally, coordinator and health education specialist Samantha Dwight addressed rape culture and sexual violence in the community. Dwight also addressed other issues involving rape, such as blaming victims.

"When we victim blame, that basically encourages the situation to continue," Dwight said. "Being a supportive person to survivors is important."

Multiple attendees, including students, past students and community members, spoke on the subject and shared experiences. They expressed gratitude for the chance to address rape and sexual violence.

The rally began on the patio behind the University Center and was later directed into the University Center Theater for discussion and a showing of a documentary called "The Line," along with other informative videos.

Dwight has been coordinating both the community involvement effort and also education efforts throughout the university.

Dwight said the Wellness and Prevention Center tries to give individuals preventative steps to avoid rape offers support for victims of sexual violence.

Counseling provided by student services is available on campus, including support from a group of students educated about sexual violence. A sexual assault support group called "After The Silence," also is available. The program is supervised by Kimberly Harvey-Livingston, director of student services.

The Wellness and Prevention Center educates faculty and staff on campus about sexual violence with presentations and television displays providing tools and information to promote awareness.

"We do have a program here on campus called CARE that educates students on sexual assault and all different forms of violence," Harvey-Livingston said.

Additionally, The East Texas Crisis Center provides the program W.I.N.G.S., or Women In Need Gaining Strength, "a free, confidential support group for women who have been affected by sexual assault or childhood sexual abuse."

English major Joshua Grijalva plans to address violence against women by coordinating a "V-day Dance Party" on Thursday. The event is part of the One Billion Rising campaign, a dance campaign which encourages individuals to "walk out, dance, rise up and demand an end to violence against women," according to the campaign website.

Health sciences leaders excited for new resources

Daniel Cebula
Staff Writer

Construction is under way for the Braithwaite Building and the Biology, Education and Psychology Building that heralds new developments and opportunities for university students and faculty.

"Between the two projects on the Nursing Building and the BEP, the nursing expansion includes a state-of-the-art hospital simulation lab with nursing stations on the second story and faculty offices on the first," said Chip Clark, the director of facilities, planning, construction and operations. "The BEP expansion, also two-story, will include a new set of both teaching and research labs, as well as a high-speed computer research lab with a 10 gigabyte connection and space for future construction."

Clark said the hospital lab additions to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences will provide a substantial new resource to nursing students.

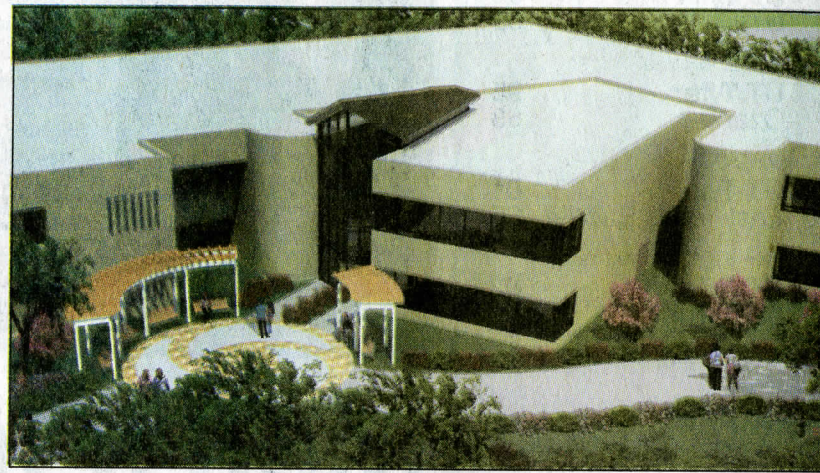
"You'll essentially be walking into a replicated, working hospital setting," said Dr. Scott Marzilli, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. "In addition to development of assessment knowledge and skills in current labs, the expansion will provide the opportunity to practice in a simulated experience of active rounds in a hospital, with different simulations in each room. Our students often practice in hospitals, so this will allow them to use both areas for their development."

Marzilli said this project reflects the ongoing, rapid expansion of nursing and other health science areas.

"We've seen an incredible growth in the number of students declaring majors in kinesiology, health studies, health and kinesiology, and nursing. It's hard to believe, but almost one in three students attending UT Tyler call the College of Nursing and Health Sciences home," Marzilli said.

Marzilli said that during the past five years, the College of Nursing and Health Sciences has seen a 35 percent increase in enrollment making it the largest college on campus with more than 1,800 students. Regarding issues of building space, the new offices being installed also will enable more effective consolidation for nursing faculty.

"Currently, some of our faculty is located in the Ornelas Activity Center due to space, and the expansion will allow all nursing faculty to return under one roof. ... This expansion will be awesome and will really contribute to the learning experiences of our students and research interests of our faculty," Marzilli said.



Top: An artist's rendering depicts the Biology, Education and Psychology Building after construction is complete. Right: Students signed a beam that is part of construction under way on campus.

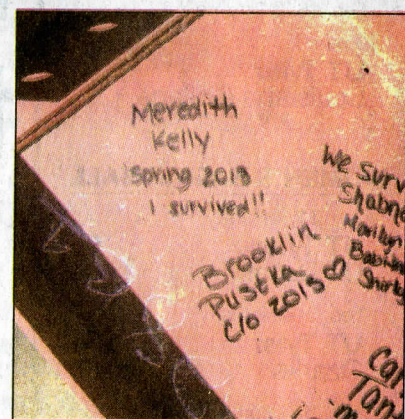
Students were given the opportunity to add a personal inscription into one of the metal girders being used to construct the nursing expansion. The girders will be built into the expansion's foundation as a time capsule project, said Teresa Hunt, clinical instructor in Nursing.

"It gives the students, especially those in nursing, the opportunity to put their stamp on something beneficial to the university and become a part of its history," Hunt said. "We all know the idea of a time capsule — we have a time beam."

The expansion taking place at the BEP Building will introduce a new means of study, as well as areas for research and instruction.

"Back in 2011, there was \$4 million set aside for a plan for the biology building. We decided on a plan to meet not only current needs but allow for expansion in the future," said Dr. Srin Kambhampati, chair of the department of biology. "One of our primary goals is to expand research. The building will have two teaching labs on the first floor and two research labs on the second, along with a classroom."

Kambhampati said the biology expansion also is set to include a powerful new computer lab connected to a super computer in the Texas Advanced Computing Center at the University of Texas at Austin, with priority access. It will operate on a 10 billion bit net connection, as opposed to the 1.5 million bit average of home connections, allowing for the analyzation of large data sets in



TALON COURTESY PHOTOS

short periods.

"Ultimately," Kambhampati said, "this expansion will help us serve the students. And in this economy, it's good to establish something concrete toward our capacity to teach our students better."

Both expansions are planned to be completed later this year.

"Construction is on schedule and there are no concerns," Clark said. "They're set to be substantially completed by Aug. 1 and finalized by Aug. 15."

Tyler's Water Utilities Administration also is performing construction on city land near the university's west entrance on Patriot Avenue.

"We are building a water pressure booster station to increase water pressure in a designated area, which does include the university campus," said Gregory Morgan, the director of utilities and public works for the city of Tyler.

Morgan said the station will help ensure citizens have adequate pressure to operate sprinklers, irrigation, domestic water systems. The project is set to be completed toward the end of May.

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